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- (54) Title of the Invention: An Apparatus for Testing for External Circumferential Defects of Contact Lenses
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#### SPECIFICATION

1. An Apparatus for Testing for External Defects of Contact Lenses

# 2. Claim

An apparatus for testing for external circumferential defects of contact lenses characterized in that the external circumferential portion of the contact lens is photographed by a photographic apparatus, in that the positions of the coordinates of the external circumferential portion are detected in binary images and in that a last squares second order approximation is effected bas d on the coordinate

positions, by which means defects are checked on the basis of the difference between coordinat positions that are detected by the aforementioned means, only very slight differences being present when the reare no essential defects, on the basis of the symbols of the second order coefficient of the second order approximation curve, the values of the second order coefficient of the second order approximation curve and the width of the external circumference that has been photographed.

3. Detailed Description of the Invention

(Field of industrial use)

This invention relates to an apparatus for testing for external circumferential defects of contact lenses.

(Summary of the invention)

This invention is an apparatus for testing for external circumferential defects of contact lenses in which tests for external circumferential defects of contact lenses are performed on the basis of the coordinate positions and widths detected by photographing with a photographic apparatus, the difference in coordinate positions detected by a least squares second order approximation on the basis of the coordinate positions and functional values of the second order approximation curve.

(Prior art)

Conventionally, detection of external circumferential defects in contact lenses has been performed by visual examination, with defects being detected by individuals using magnifying glasses.

(Problems the invention is intended to solve)

However, there are the following problems in the aforementioned existing technology.

- a. There are many defects that are unnoticed.
- b. There are differences among individuals in their capacity to detect defects.
- c. Oversights occur because of fatigue.

The purpose of this invention is to solve these problems. Its objective is to provide an apparatus for the quantitativ detection of external circumferential def cts of contact lenses with which ther will be little variation in detection.

# (Means for solving the problems)

The apparatus for testing for external circumferential defects of contact lens s of this invention is characterized in that the external circumferential portion of the contact lens is photographed by a photographic apparatus, in that the positions of the coordinates of the external circumferential portion are detected in binary images and in that a least squares second order approximation is effected based on the coordinate positions, by which means defects are checked on the basis of the difference between coordinate positions that are detected by the aforementioned means, only very slight differences being present when there are no essential defects, on the basis of the symbols of the second order coefficient of the second order approximation curve, the values of the second order coefficient of the second order approximation curve and the width of the external circumference that has been photographed.

#### (Example)

We shall now describe this invention on the basis of the figure. As shown in the figure, the external circumferential portion of the contact lens is photographed by a photographic apparatus. The difference in the Y axis direction between the position coordinate 1 detected in th binary image and the coordinate position 2 detected by least square second order approximation on the basis of the former coordination position is on the order of 0 to 7  $\mu m$ in a lens with essentially no defects. However, in a lens with a defect, the difference is greater than 7  $\mu m$  and a defect can be detected. Further, when a concave arc is photographed in a lens made in a circular external shape as shown in Figure 1, the symbol of the second order coefficient of the second order approximation curve always becomes positive and a defect can be detected. The value of the second degree coefficient of the second order approximation curve is  $9 \times 10^4$  to  $15 \times 10^4$  in a lens with essentially no defects. In a lens in which there is a defect, the defect can be detected on the basis of the fact that the aforementioned value is not taken. The width 3 of the external circumference in Figure 1 is on the order of 30 to 80  $\mu m$  in a lens with essentially no defects. region with a defect, the defect can be detected on the basis of the fact that the aforementioned value is not In order to increase the precision of defect detection, as shown in the figure, a portion 4 of the external circumference of the lens is photographed and detection is effected by rotating the lens, with the entire circumference of the lens being divided into arcs. By this means, defects of the entire circumfer nce of the lens can be detected.

In the aforementioned example, quantitative detection of external circumferential def cts is possible with littl variation in detection as a result of eliminating the vagueness and instability of detection by visual examination.

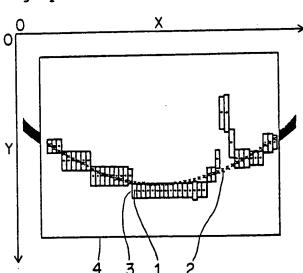
## (Effect of the invention)

This invention as described in the foregoing text makes possible the detection of external circumferential defects in contact lenses on the basis of differences in the coordinate positions and widths detected by photographing with a photographic apparatus and the coordinate positions detected by a least squares second order approximation on the basis of these coordinate positions and by means of the functional values of the second order approximation curve. As a result, quantitative detection can easily be effected with little variation in detection and with the vagueness and instability of detection by visual examination being eliminated.

## 4. Brief Explanation of the Figure

Figure 1 is an illustration of the principles of the apparatus for detecting external circumferential defects in contact lenses of this invention showing an example of a portion of the external circumference of the contact lens that is photographed by the photographic apparatus and of the coordinate positions that are detected by a least squares second order approximation.

- 1 coordinate position that is detected by photography
- 2 coordinate position that is detected by a least squares second order approximation
- 3 width of external circumference that is detected by photography
- 4 A portion of the external circumference of the lens that is photographed



#### FIGURE 1

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**3**発明の名称 コン

コンタクトレンズ外周欠け検査装置

②特 願 平1-79027

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明 紐 書

## 1. 発明の名称

コンタクトレンズ外周欠け検査装置

### 2. 特許請求の範囲

コンタクトレンズの外間部を撮像装置により撮像し、その2値関係において外間部の座標位置を検出し、その座標位置より最小2乗法2次によりたことにより、本来欠けが無ければ偏差で行るべき上記検出手段により検出した座標位置間における差異と、近似2次曲線の2次係数の値と、撮像される外間の中と、により、欠けを検査することを特徴とするコンタクトレンズ外間欠け検査装置。

#### 3. 発明の詳細な説明

【産業上の利用分野】

本発明は、コンタクトレンズ外周欠け検査装置に関する。

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#### (発明の概要)

本発明は、コンタクトレンズ外周欠け検査装置において、接像装置により機像して検出した座標位置・巾と、その座標位置より最小2乗法2次近似して検出した座標位置の差異と、2次近似曲線の関数値によりコンタクトレンズの外周欠け検査を行なうことを実現したものである。

#### [従来の技術]

従来のコンタクトレンズの外周欠け検査は目視で行なっており、 人間が拡大鏡を使用して欠けを 検出するものであった。

[発明が解決しようとする課題]

しかし、前述の従来技術では、

- a.見落としが多い
- b. 個人の欠け検出能力に差がある
- c. 疲労による見落としが発生する

という問題点を する

そこで本発明はこのような問題点を解決するもので、その目的とするところは、検出のバラッキが少ない定量的なコンタクトレンズの外周欠け検

査装置を提供するところにある。

[課題を解決するための手段]

本発明のコンタクトレンズ外周欠け検査装置りは、コンタクトレンズの外周部を撮像を基準に出るのと値画像において外周部の座標位置はり最小と乗送には位置を検出し、その座標位置より最小と乗ければ位置である。と上記検出手段により検出した原数のであるととではないではない。 近似 2 次曲線の 2 次係数の値と、提像され物とと近似 2 次 けを検査することを特徴とする。

#### 〔寒 施 例〕

以下に本発明の実施例を図面にもとづいて説明 する。第1図において、コンタクトレンズの外周 部を摄像装置により撮像し、その2値画像におり 最はした座標位置1とその座標位置より最小2 乗法2次近似して検出した座標位置2のY軸程 を異は、本体欠けの無いレンズで0~7μm程度 であるが、欠けの有るレンズでは7μm以上の差

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り摄像して検出した座標位置と、巾と、その座標位置より最小2乗法2次近似して検出した座標位置の差異と、2次近似曲線の関数値によりコンククトレンズの外周欠け検査を行なうことを実現できることにより、目視検査におけるあいまい定量的不安定さを除去した検出バラツキが少ない定量的な検査を容易にするという効果を有する。

## 4. 図面の簡単な説明

第1図は、本発明にかかるコンタクトレンズ外周欠け枝蓋装置の、撮像装置により撮像したコンタクトレンズ外周の一部と、最小2乗法2次近似して検出した座標位置の一例を示す原理図である。

11・・・摄像して検出した座標位置

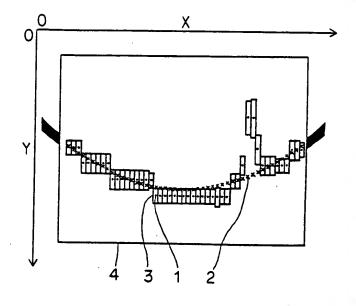
2 ・・・最小2乗法2次近似して検出した座標位置

3 ・・・撮像して検出した外周の巾

4・・・遺像したレンズ外周の一部

以上のような実施例において、目視検査による あいまいさ、不安定さを除去し、検出バラッキが 少ない定量的な外周欠け検査ができるのである。 〔発明の効果〕

本発明は、以上説明したように、機像装置によ



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